Universal Elementary Education

965. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the revised target year for the attainment of the Constitutional goal of 'universal elementary education' in the country;

(b) whether the progress made during the last two years in this regard is satisfactory;

(c) what is the present estimated number of non-school going children below the age of 6 years and those between 6—14 years respectively; and

(d) what percentage of these is likely to be covered by the programme this year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) The revised target for attainment of the Constitutional goal of universalisation of Elementary Education, adopted in the National Policy on Education, 1986 is 1995. After the policy was adopted in 1986, new schemes to give effect to it have been introduced in 1987-88 which are being implemented satisfactorily. According to the available estimates the number of children below the age of 6 years as in 1985 was 12.07 crores and the number of children between the age of 6—14 was 14.48 crores. In 1985—86 the number of children enrolled in Classes I—VIII was 11.45 crores. Educational statistics are collected on an annual basis from the State Government or from periodical All India Educational Surveys. Therefore, the information in respect of the current year cannot be available.

Examination Reforms

966. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any policy has been formulated to introduce examination reforms at school and college level; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L.P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The National Policy on Education, 1986 proposes a recasting of the examination system to ensure a method of assessment that is a valid and reliable measure of student development and a powerful instrument for improving teaching and learning. These measures would involve the elimination of excessive element of chance and subjectivity; de-emphasis of memorisation; continuous and comprehensive evaluation spread over a total pan of instructional time; effective use of the evaluation process by teachers, students and parents; improvement in the conduct of examinations; the introduction of concomitant changes in the instructional materials and methodologies; introduction of semester system from the secondary stage in a phased manner; and the use of grades in place of marks.

Detailed guidelines have been prepared by the U.G.C. and the N.C.E.R.T. for the introduction of some of these reforms at the university and school levels.

Vocational Education

957. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) What degree of success has been achieved in implementation of vocational education;

(b) whether any links have been formed between the schools and the departments concerned with vocational training;

(c) whether the Centre has recommended to the States to set up an Institution to promote and monitor collaboration between general and vocational education; and

(d) if so, what has been the States' response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Vocationalisation of Secondary Education has been started only recently in 1987-88. As such it would be too early to give an assessment of its success

(b) to (d) The Scheme provides for effective linkages among the schools, employers and other concerned departments. The NCERT has prepared the Guidelines for developing school-industry linkages which may be kept in view by the State Governments during implementation of the Scheme. Further, it is proposed to set up a Joint Council of Vocational Education (JCVE) at the national level, with counter-part organisations at the State level (SCVE), for laying down policy guidelines, planning, coordination and review of implementation of the programme. These organisations will have representatives from all concerned departments, organisations, employers, educationists, etc. Moreover, in order to maintain effective linkage between genral education and vocational ducation, the separate infrestructure for management of vocational education is being created within the departments of education at the Centre, State and the district levels. During the year 1987-88, 18 States|UTs have been assisted for implementation of this Scheme. The appropriate management structure for vocational education is likely to be established in these States during the current financial year. The State Councils of Vocational Education have been set up in four States|UTs so far.

Grant Paid by UGC to Delhi University for Publishing thesis/Research Papers

968. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of grant paid by the UGC to Delhi University for publishing thesis of Ph.D. scholars during the last 3 years;

(b) what is the number of thesis published during that period;

(c) whether a large number of research papers on various subjects are pending for publication; and

(d) if so, what is the number thereof and the reasons therefor, and by what time the University would be publishing these research papers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The University Grants Commission has allocated the following amounts to Delhi University for publication of Learned/Research work including Doctoral Thesis:—

S.No.	Period	Amount
1.	1984—1986	Rs. 1.00 lakh
2.	1987—1990	Rs. 2.50 lakhs
	TOTAL :	Rs. 3.50 lakhs